

**Amendments to the Claims under 37 C.F.R. § 1.121**

Claims 1-12 (cancelled).

Claim 13 (previously presented): A composition of matter of the formula



wherein:

$F^1$  is selected from the group consisting of an Fc domain, a linear polymer, a branched chain polymer, a lipid, a cholesterol group, a carbohydrate, an oligosaccharide, a natural protein, a synthetic protein, and a polypeptide or peptide that binds to a salvage receptor;

$X^1$  and  $X^2$  are each independently selected from  $-(L^1)_c-P^1$ ,  $-(L^1)_c-P^1-(L^2)_d-P^2$ ,  $-(L^1)_c-P^1-(L^2)_d-P^2-(L^3)_e-P^3$ , and  $-(L^1)_c-P^1-(L^2)_d-P^2-(L^3)_e-P^3-(L^4)_f-P^4$

$P^1$ ,  $P^2$ ,  $P^3$ , and  $P^4$  are each independently

- i. the consensus region of TACI (SEQ ID NO: 16);
- ii. the consensus region of BCMA (SEQ ID NO: 7); or
- iii. the TACI/BCMA extracellular consensus sequence (SEQ ID NO: 13)

$P^1$ ,  $P^2$ ,  $P^3$ , and  $P^4$  are not the extracellular region of TACI (SEQ ID NO: 15) or the extracellular region of BCMA (SEQ ID NO: 6);

$L^1$ ,  $L^2$ ,  $L^3$ , and  $L^4$  are each independently linkers; and

a, b, c, d, e, and f are each independently 0 or 1, provided that at least one of a and b is 1, and wherein neither  $X^1$  nor  $X^2$  is naturally occurring.

Claim 14 (original): The composition of matter of Claim 13 of the formulae



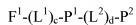
or



Claim 15 (original): The composition of matter of Claim 14 of the formula



Claim 16 (previously presented): The composition of matter of Claim 14 of the formula



wherein one of  $P^1$  and  $P^2$  is a specific binding partner for AGP-3 and the other is a specific binding partner for APRIL.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The composition of matter of Claim 16, wherein  $F^1$  is an Fc domain.